

PATENT

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35813 U.S. PRO
09/07/445
11/06/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gilbert M. Aust et al.

Reissue of U.S. Patent No. : 5,540,706

Issued Date : July 30, 1996

For : SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Attorney Docket No. : A31-2047RE

Cleveland, Ohio 44114
October 12, 2000

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
And Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed to fulfill the duty of candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

Below is a list of information of which persons substantively involved in the preparation of the application identified above, are aware of and believe that a reasonable Examiner may consider important to deciding whether to allow the application. Although a search to locate the best information may have been made, this document is not a representation that such a search has been made and is not a

representation that no other information exists. However, this document is not to be construed as being an admission that any of the items set forth in the list is "material" as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

Copies of the below mentioned items and PTO Form 1449 are attached.

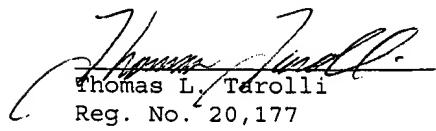
Items

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